

the Governour thereof. They return, and acquaint Mr. Speaker with the Delivery of their Message.

*Philemon Lloyd, Esq;* and *Col. Richard Tilghman*, from the Upper House, acquaint Mr. Speaker, that the Governour requires him, and the other Members of this House, to attend Him immediately in the Upper House, and then withdrew.

Mr. Speaker left the Chair; and with the rest of the Members of this House, went to the Upper House, where the Governour made the following Speech, *viz.*

*Gentlemen of the Upper and Lower Houses of Assembly,*

**H**OWEVER inconvenient, in many Respects, this Time of Year may be, for our Meeting in Assembly, yet such is the present Condition of Our Staple, that a speedy Care for its Amendment is necessary: It is therefore, you are now convened, that you might have an early Opportunity to consult the Publick Good therein.

THE late great Affliction, wherewith it hath pleased Divine Providence to visit me, and Indispositions that have attended me, have very much impeded the Application of my Thoughts to Publick Business, so that I have little to lay before you at present, as of my own Consideration.

*Gentlemen,*

PURSUANT to the joint Address of both Houses, I have concerted, as far as possible, since last Session, a Correspondence with *Virginia*: Some Time before, a Scheme had there been formed, towards an useful Tobacco-Law, and sent to *England* for Approbation; and I understand, it is so far approv'd of, that it is to be now laid before the *Virginia* Assembly: A Copy of it I shall communicate to you, for your Consideration. The main Scope of it, is, I apprehend, to prevent Trash from being exported from these Parts, and the running of Our Tobacco at Home, which, by many, is esteemed a more probable Method of advancing the Credit, and thereby the Value of our Tobacco, than a bare Limitation to a Number of Plants; and surely, Trash is the greatest Cancer to our Staple. I hope you will not delay to enter most seriously and calmly on a Subject so important to this Province.

I WISH you now to advise on all other Matters relating to the Publick, that the Trouble and Expence of another Session this Year may be saved to the Country.

MAY Wisdom and Moderation direct your Councils, otherwise they will be rendered ineffectual, and the Country possibly may grow daily more and more uneasy in its Circumstances.

CERTAIN you may be of my Inclinations, to advance the real Happiness of His Lordship's Tenants; and nothing can ever be more agreeable to me, than to see Blessed Harmony leading Us into such Measures, as may fix it on a lasting Foundation.

Mr. Speaker,